

# newbee

SALT OF THE EARTH AND LIGHT OF THE WORLD:  
CELEBRATING, LISTENING AND WALKING TOGETHER IN A SPIRIT OF  
COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION AND MISSION (MATTHEW 5: 13-16).

## MONTHLY FOCUS

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US

# Prepared to Face TRIBULATIONS

The readings today direct our focus to the end of time, the last judgement and the second coming of Christ.

In the first reading from Daniel, we encounter a promise of deliverance to those who are faithful. The imagery of resurrection and the final gathering of the righteous provides a profound sense of hope amid the turbulence of life.



“Church tradition has always urged prayer for the dead, in particular by offering the celebration of the Eucharist for them.”

*Pope Francis*



The second reading from the letter to the Hebrews emphasizes the completeness of Christ’s sacrifice reassuring us that our relationship with God is rooted in grace, not merely in our own efforts.

Many false prophets have predicted the world’s end. Movie directors have also capitalized on this similar topic producing movies that depicts series of extreme weather, catastrophic global events or apocalyptic scenarios. When will the world end? Jesus provides the answer in the gospel, “only the Father knows when that day or hour will come.”

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC), 675, states “Before Christ’s second coming the Church must pass through a final trial that will shake the faith of many believers.” When we devote ourselves to the love and service of God, we can be certain that our faith will be tested and we will face persecution in one way or another.

Through our persecutions, trials and tribulation, Jesus give assurance that he is near, at the gates. In other words, the greater the suffering one endures for their faith, the more present God is. He is there, at the gate of your heart, waiting for you to run to Him in trust and hope.

Therefore, let us be reminded that our life on earth is a pilgrimage. **Where we will stand when Christ comes, will depend on the way we live now.** Let us take steps to avoid an unprepared death by living an upright life each day. ✦

## SCRIPTURE of the DAY

Daniel 12: 1-3

Psalms 15: 5, 8-11

Hebrews 10: 11-14, 18

Mark 13: 24-32